Appl. No. 10/002,882   APP 1316
Amdt. Dated May 19, 2005
Reply to Office action of February 22, 2005

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 28 with the following:

Figure 1 illustrates a Secure Enterprise Communications (SEC) system 100 according to a one embodiment of our invention. The illustrative SEC system 100 comprises a distributed two-tier client-server system: the control server's tier 110 and the communication servers server's tier 120. The illustrative SEC system 100 also includes a SEC database 130, a SEC data network 160, a PSTN gateway 140, a PSTN 170 142, communications network 162, an enterprise directory 150 , at least two SEC clients client processes 170, 172, or 174, hereinafter all referred to as SEC client or clients 170, and at least two communication devices 180, 182. The control server's tier 110 forms the main interface through which SEC clients 170 obtain services. The communication server's tier 120 is primarily responsible for transporting media streams between communicating clients.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 27 with the following:

The UI 180 in SEC process 170 provides an interface between a user and the his or her SEC client processor process 170. In an illustrative embodiment of our invention, the UI supports the capability for a user to control a single conference or to control multiple conferences simultaneously. It also allows users to create and view PAL information.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 9 with the following:

In step 606, the communications controller selects a communications server one of the communication servers within the communications server's tier 120 to be used in the conference and notifies the server selected that a new conference has been created. The message in step 606 includes the conference identifier and the identifier of the predefined user. The communications controller 114 selects the communications server based on the media type of the conference identified in the invitation message. For example, a single MCTU server 126 is selected for a text conference, and a MCU server 124 is selected for a an audio conference. Where there are multiple MCUs or MCTUs, one with spare capacity is selected to control the conference.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 18, line 28 with the following:

The present invention allows a user to participate in multiple, multiparty, multimedia conferences at the same time. For example, User A, using SEC client 170, can participate in a Conference 1 with user B, using SEC client 172, and user C, using SEC client 174 and others. At the same time User A, using client 170, can participate in a conference 2 with users D, E, and F and others. At the same time User A, using SEC

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client 170, can participate in a Conference 3 with Users G and H and perhaps more
Conferences. It is assumed that most of the time the conferences have sparse
communication, perhaps with the communication coming in bursts. All input voice
streams are mixed at in the audio module 278 in the SEC Client 170 so the user can hear
any participant in any conference who speaks. The User Interface for 280 in SEC Client
170 allows the user to see a PAL for each conference and to see graphically which
conference currently has speakers and even who the speaker is. The SEC Client 170
knows this because a conference ID and a speaker ID is are associated with each
incoming packet and each incoming packet holds content from one user.

Please replace the paragraph at page 20, line 18 with the following:

In an embodiment of this invention User A uses the User Interface associated with
in the SEC Client 170 to signal the Communication Controller 114 to create a persistent
conference, herein referred to as conference PC1. User A can then invite User B and
User C and others to conference PC1 in the same manner as they would be invited invite
User B and User C to a normal conference. However, now when Users A, B, and C leave
conference C1, the Communication Controller 114 does not delete it and the MCU 124
and MTCU 126 still remember it. Then at a later date/time, User A, B, or C, or all of
them together, can rejoin the conference. In addition, Communication Controller 114
keeps information in the SEC Database 130 indicating that User A created conference
PC1 and is considered the owner. Persistent conference owners have special capabilities
that apply to persistent conferences, such as being able to delete the conference, or
change the security keys of the conference. Owners can also block selected users from
joining the conference or simply specify a list of users who are allowed to join the
conference.

Please replace the paragraph at page 21, line 2 with the following:

Our invention also allows users to share applications within the auspices of a
conference. First User A using the User Interface of SEC Client 170 requests an
application sharing conference to be created by signaling Communication Controller 114.
Communication Controller 114 creates the conference and makes the users specified by
User A the participants. This is accomplished in the manner specified earlier for voice
conferences with one difference. The difference is that instead of contacting the MCU
124 to control the voice messages, the Communications Controller 114 contacts a Smart
Application Server 129 to run the application and communicate with the conference
participants. The Smart Application Server 129 then obtains the data necessary for the
application by obtaining it from User A's computer using a negotiated well known
protocol such as FTP. Examples of such data include, but are not limited to, Microsoft
Word documents, Microsoft PowerPoint viewgraphs, and Microsoft Excel spreadsheets.
Once the data is obtained, the Smart Application Server 129 starts the application that is
needed to edit and/or view the data and connects to the SEC Client of each conference
participant using an application sharing protocol such as, but not limited to, T. 120.

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~~(http://itu.int/publibase/itu-t/itutAllbySeries.asp.serie=t)~~ With T.120, the application runs only on the Smart Application Server 129, and all conference participants see the application output on the User Interface of their SEC Clients. In addition, input control is first given to the user who starts the application sharing conference, in this case User A using SEC Client 170, and subsequently is passed from participant to participant as a participant asks for and is granted control by the current owner.

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